



Conflict in Friendship

Brian Priebe | Executive Pastor | June 18, 2023

Summary of series thus far:

- Be in **Proximity** so we are in a position to
- Have relational **Transparency**, so then we are in a position to
- Seek **Accountability** and when we seek accountability it is likely there will be
- **Conflict**, it is inevitable.

"This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' He said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' He said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon, son of John, do you love me?' Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you girded yourself and walked where you would; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish to go.' (This he said to show by what death he was to glorify God.) And after this he said to him, 'Follow me.'" **John 21:14-19 (NIV)**

PRINCIPLE #1 - Make the conversation safe

PRINCIPLE #2 - Speak Directly

"Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses." **Proverbs 27:6 (NIV)**

PRINCIPLE #3 - Forgive the offense

"He who forgives an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter alienates a friend."

Proverbs 17:9 (RSV)

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

Ephesians 4:32-5:2 (NIV)

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TODAY'S MESSAGE:

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"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." **Colossians 3:13 (NIV)**

PRINCIPLE #4 - Move On

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins." **1 Peter 4:8 (NIV)**

Reflection Questions:

- 1) Share with your group how conflict was handled in your family of origin. What was done well and what was done poorly?
- 2) Which of the principles of successful conflict resolution is hardest for you (Make the Conversation Safe, Speak Directly, Forgive, Move On)?
- 3) Are there any people in your life right now that you need to forgive? Are you willing to seek accountability to engage them?
- 4) Are there any people in your life right now that you have hurt or offended that you need to seek their forgiveness? Are you willing to seek accountability to engage them?



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